



State of Montana
Office of the Governor
Helena, Montana 59620
406-444-3111

TED SCHWINDEN
GOVERNOR

May 23, 1988

Arthur Hansen
Rt. 2, Box 118
Harrison, ID 83833

Dear Mr. Hansen:

Thank you for your letter concerning the litter along the Milwaukee right of way.

I agree that the right of way needs to be cleaned up, but finding the responsible party is more difficult. When the Milwaukee disposed of the line, they were in bankruptcy. The Milwaukee Road sold the line from St. Regis to Avery to people from Idaho, who then salvaged the trackage. The federal government (primarily the U.S. Forest Service) claimed a large portion of the right of way under reversionary title because it was no longer being used for rail purposes.

The Transportation Division in the Department of Commerce is working to identify the responsible party for the cleanup and to encourage that party to clean up the debris as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ted Schwinden".

TED SCHWINDEN
Governor

USEPA SF



1420413